

1           1. In a computer system that includes a plurality of client systems and a  
2 plurality of server systems, all interconnected by a network infrastructure, wherein the  
3 plurality of server systems provide access to sites storing Web pages or other data, and  
4 wherein one or more of the client systems comprises a computing device having a  
5 processing system that includes program instructions used in the operation of the one or  
6 more client systems, such as in retrieving data from said sites, a method of restoring a  
7 corrupted portion of the program instructions at a client system, wherein the restoring occurs  
8 automatically and without user intervention, the method comprising the client system  
9 performing the following steps:

10                 during initialization, checking the validity of system program instructions at  
11 the client system and thereafter checking the validity of application program  
12 instructions at the client system;

13                 determining that a corrupted state exists in at least a portion of any of the  
14 checked program instructions;

15                 in response to determining that the corrupted state exists, connecting the  
16 client system to one of the server systems or sites that contains a replacement for the  
17 corrupted portion of the program instructions;

18                 receiving the replacement from said one of the server systems or sites; and

19                 replacing the corrupted portion of the program instructions with the  
20 replacement.